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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the present patent application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for generating multiple descriptions of compressed data from input data, wherein each description is associated with a target application, comprising:
generating a quantized bit stream using a reference quantization step, wherein the generation comprises transforming the input data into coefficients and quantizing the coefficients using the reference quantization step; and
re-quantizing the quantized bit stream using a first quantization step to generate a first description of compressed data, wherein the first quantization step is determined based on a first required scaling of the reference quantization step, said first required scaling being determined based on a first target application.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
re-quantizing the quantized bit stream using a second quantization step to generate a second description of compressed data, wherein the second quantization step is determined based on a second required scaling of the reference quantization step, said second required scaling being determined based on a second target application.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein generating the quantized bit stream comprises:
using as the reference quantization step a quantization step for generating an archival compressed bit stream.
4. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for generating multiple descriptions of compressed data from input data, wherein each description is associated with a target application, comprising:

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means for generating a quantized bit stream using a reference quantization step, said quantized bit stream being generated by transforming the input data into coefficients and quantizing the coefficients using the reference quantization step; and

means for re-quantizing the quantized bit stream using a first quantization step to generate a first description of compressed data, wherein the first quantization step is determined based on a first required scaling of the reference quantization step, said first required scaling being determined based on a first target application.

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 4, further comprising:

means for re-quantizing the quantized bit stream using a second quantization step to generate a second description of compressed data, wherein the second quantization step is determined based on a second required scaling of the reference quantization step, said second required scaling being determined based on a second target application.

6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the means for generating the quantized bit stream comprises:

means for using as the reference quantization step a quantization step for generating an archival compressed bit stream.

7. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for generating multiple descriptions of compressed data from input data, wherein each description is associated with a target application, comprising:

a transform module configured to generate transform coefficients from the input data; and
a quantization module coupled to the transform module, the quantization module configured to quantize the transform coefficients using a reference quantization step and to re-quantize the quantized transform coefficients using different quantization steps to generate multiple descriptions of compressed data, wherein each of the different quantization steps is determined based on a required scaling of the reference quantization step, said the required scaling being determined based on a desirable target application.

8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the quantization module comprises:

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a first quantization module configured to quantize the transform coefficients using the reference quantization step; and

a second quantization module configured to re-quantize the quantized transform coefficients using the different quantization steps.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for generating compressed data from input data, comprising:

accessing a quantized bit stream generated using a reference quantization step, said quantized bit stream being generated by transforming the input data into coefficients and quantizing the coefficients using the reference quantization step; and

re-quantizing the quantized bit stream using a first quantization step to generate a first description of compressed data associated with a first target application, wherein the first quantization step is determined based on a first required scaling of the reference quantization step, said first required scaling being determined based on the first target application.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising:

re-quantizing the quantized bit stream using a second quantization step to generate a second description of compressed data associated with a second target application, wherein the second quantization step is determined based on a second required scaling of the reference quantization step, said second required scaling being determined based on the second target application.

11. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for generating compressed data from input data, comprising:

means for accessing a quantized bit stream generated using a reference quantization step, said quantized bit stream being generated by transforming the input data into coefficients and quantizing the coefficients using the reference quantization step; and

means for re-quantizing the quantized bit stream using a first quantization step to generate a first description of compressed data associated with a first target application, wherein the first quantization step is determined based on a first required scaling of the reference

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quantization step, said first required scaling being determined based on the first target application.

12. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising:

means for re-quantizing the quantized bit stream using a second quantization step to generate a second description of compressed data associated with a second target application, wherein the second quantization step is determined based on a second required scaling of the reference quantization step, said second required scaling being determined based on the second target application.

13. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for generating compressed data from input data, comprising:

a storage medium configured to store a quantized bit stream generated using a reference quantization step, wherein quantized bit stream being generated by transforming the input data into coefficients and quantizing the coefficients using the reference quantization step; and

a quantization module coupled to the storage medium and configured to re-quantize the quantized bit stream using different quantization steps to generate multiple descriptions of compressed data associated with different target applications, wherein each of the different quantization steps is determined based on a required scaling of the reference quantization step, said required scaling being determined based on a desirable target application.

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the storage medium is configured to store an archival compressed bit stream as the compressed bit stream.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for generating multiple descriptions of compressed data from input data, wherein each description is associated with a target application, comprising:

generating a quantized bit stream using a reference quantization step, wherein the generation comprises transforming the input data into coefficients and quantizing the coefficients using the reference quantization step;

encoding the quantized bit stream;

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decoding the encoded quantized bit stream; and

re-quantizing the decoded quantized bit stream using a first quantization step to generate a first description of compressed data associated with a first target application, wherein the first quantization step is determined based on a first required scaling of the reference quantization step, said first required scaling being determined based on the first target application.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

re-quantizing the decoded quantized bit stream using a second quantization step to generate a second description of compressed data associated with a second target application, wherein the second quantization step is determined based on a second required scaling of the reference quantization step, said second required scaling being determined based on the second target application.

17. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein generating the quantized bit stream comprises:

using as the reference quantization step a quantization step for generating an archival compressed bit stream.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ An apparatus for generating multiple descriptions of compressed data from input data, wherein each description is associated with a target application, comprising:

means for generating a quantized bit stream using a reference quantization step, said quantized bit stream being generated by transforming the input data into coefficients and quantizing the coefficients using the reference quantization step;

means for encoding the quantized bit stream;

means for decoding the encoded quantized bit stream; and

means for re-quantizing the decoded quantized bit stream using a first quantization step to generate a first description of compressed data associated with a first target application, wherein the first quantization step is determined based on a first required scaling of the reference

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quantization step, said first required scaling being determined based on the first target application.

19. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 18, further comprising:
means for re-quantizing the decoded quantized bit stream using a second quantization step to generate a second description of compressed data associated with a second target application, wherein the second quantization step is determined based on a second required scaling of the reference quantization step, said second required scaling being determined based on the second target application.

20. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for generating multiple descriptions of compressed data from input data, wherein each description is associated with a target application, comprising:
a transform module configured to transform the input data into coefficients;
a quantization module configured to generate a quantized bit stream using a reference quantization step, wherein the quantization module quantizes the coefficients using the reference quantization step;
a coding module coupled to the quantization module and configured to encode the quantized bit stream; and
a decoding module configured to decode the encoded quantized bit stream;
wherein the quantization module is configured to re-quantize the decoded quantized bit stream using different quantization steps to generate multiple descriptions of compressed data, wherein each of the quantization steps is determined based on a required scaling of the reference quantization step, said required scaling being determined based on a desirable target application.

21. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the quantization module comprises:
a first quantization module configured to generate the quantized bit stream using the reference quantization step; and
a second quantization module configured to re-quantize the decoded quantized bit stream using the different quantization steps to generate the multiple descriptions of compressed data.

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22. (Currently Amended) A method for generating compressed data from input data based on encoded quantized bit stream, comprising:

accessing compressed quantized bit stream generated by quantization using a reference quantization step, said compressed quantized bit stream being generated by transforming the input data into coefficients and quantizing the coefficients using the reference quantization step;

decoding the compressed quantized bit stream to generate decoded quantized bit stream;
and

re-quantizing the decoded quantized bit stream using a first quantization step to generate a first description of compressed data associated with a first target application, wherein the first quantization step is determined based on a first required scaling of the reference quantization step, said first required scaling being determined based on the first target application.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 22, further comprising:

re-quantizing the decoded quantized bit stream using a second quantization step to generate a second description of compressed data associated with a second target application, wherein the second quantization step is determined based on a second required scaling of the reference quantization step, said second required scaling being determined based on the second target application.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 22, wherein accessing the compressed bit stream comprises:

accessing an archival compressed quantized bit stream generated using as the reference quantization step a quantization step for generating an archival compressed bit stream.

25. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for generating compressed data from input data based on encoded quantized bit stream, the apparatus comprising:

means for accessing compressed quantized bit stream generated by quantization using a reference quantization step, said compressed quantized bit stream being generated by transforming the input data into coefficients and quantizing the coefficients using the reference quantization step;

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means for decoding compressed quantized bit stream to generate decoded quantized bit stream; and

means for re-quantizing the decoded quantized bit stream using a first quantization step to generate a first description of compressed data associated with a first target application, wherein the first quantization step is determined based on a first required scaling of the reference quantization step, said first required scaling being determined based on the first target application.

26. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 25, further comprising:

means for re-quantizing the decoded quantized bit stream using a second quantization step to generate a second description of compressed data associated with a second target application, wherein the second quantization step is determined based on a second required scaling of the reference quantization step, said second required scaling being determined based on the second target application.

27. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for generating multiple descriptions of compressed data from input data based on encoded quantized bit stream, wherein each description is associated with a target application, the apparatus comprising:

a storage medium configured to store a compressed quantized bit stream generated by quantization using a reference quantization step, said compressed quantized bit stream being generated by transforming the input data into coefficients and quantizing the coefficients using the reference quantization step;

a decoding module configured to decode the compressed bit stream; and

a quantization module configured to re-quantize the decoded compressed bit stream using different quantization steps to generate multiple descriptions of compressed data, wherein each of the quantization steps is determined based on a required scaling of the reference quantization step, said required scaling being determined based on a desirable target application.

28. (Original) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the storage medium is configured to store an archival compressed bit stream as the compressed bit stream.